NOV 1 7 1998

CLAIMS: Cancel all claims of record and substitute new claims 4 to 8 as follows:

- 4. A method of topically treating bacterial infections of the skin caused by susceptible organisms which comprises administering to an individual a composition of a fluoroquinolone antibiotic present in a vehicle containing acetone and alcohol, applied directly to the affected areas of the human skin.
- 5. The method described in claim 4 wherein the fluoroquinolone antibiotic is selected from a group consisting of, but is not limited to, ciprofloxacin, ofloxacin, enoxacin, cinoxacin, pefloxacin, lomefloxacin, norfloxacin, tosufloxacin, fleroxacin, temafloxacin, trovafloxacin, and difloxacin, in a topical agent, in the form of an ointment, cream, lotion, gel, suspension, emulsion, cleansing bar, pledget, salve, tincture, spray, transdermal device, or other appropriate non-toxic pharmaceutical carrier.
- 6. The method described in claim 4 wherein the fluoroquinolone antibiotic is present in a range from about 5% to about 10% by weight of the composition.
- 7. The method described in claim 4 wherein the alcohol and acetone is present in a weight percent from 0.1% to 95.0%.
- 8. A method described in claim 4 wherein the topical carrier is present in a weight percent from 75.0% to 94.9%.

